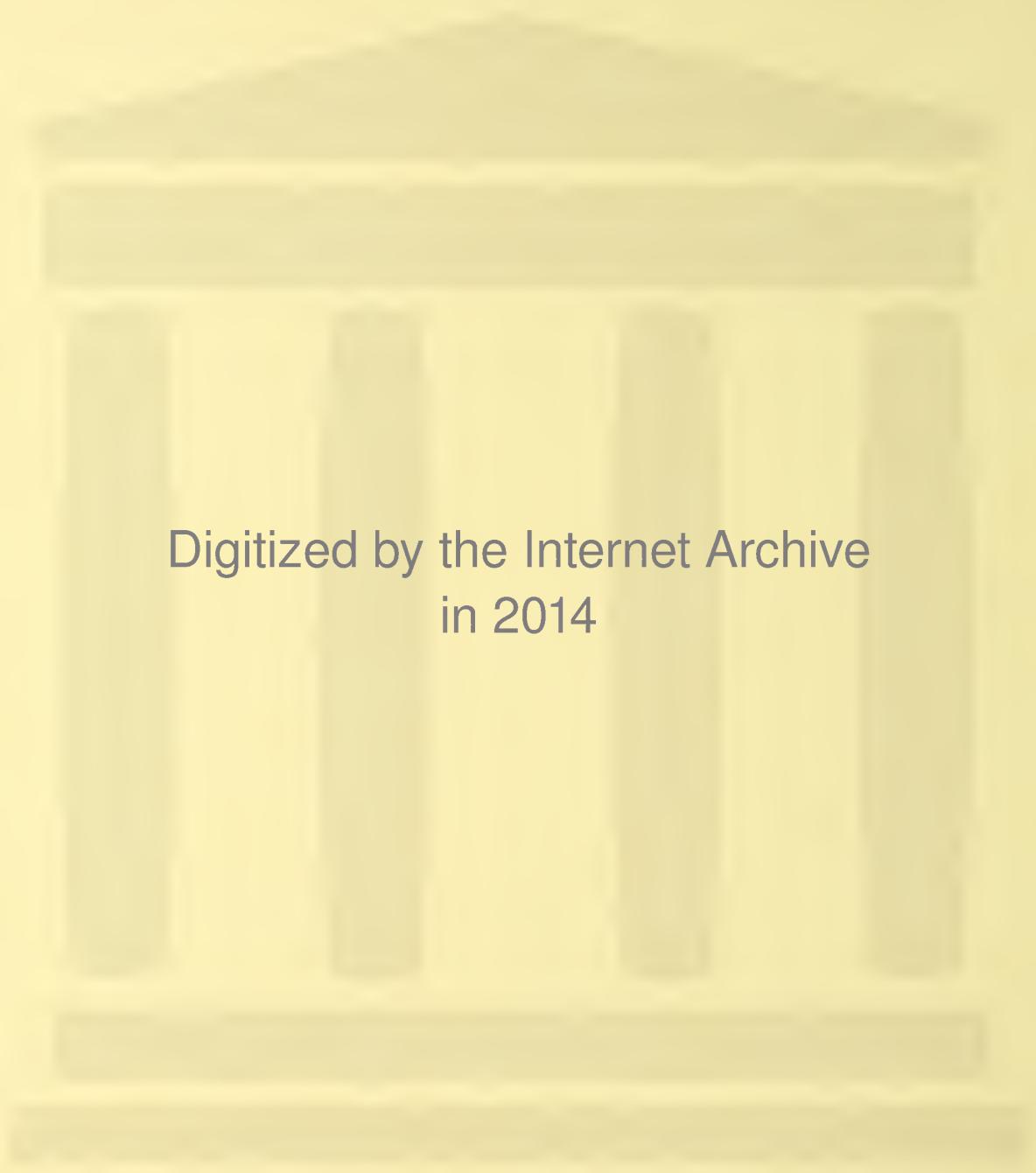


Pen - Made in U.S.A. - 100% Polyester

WIRE HARNESS

WIRE HARNESS

71-2009 085 84958



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in 2014

[https://archive.org/details/curiosrelicsdesklin\\_18](https://archive.org/details/curiosrelicsdesklin_18)

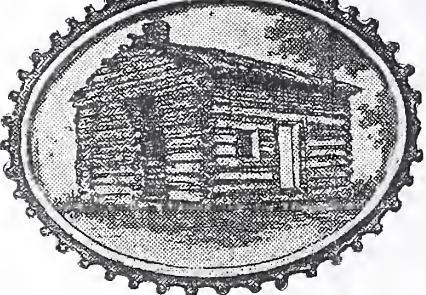
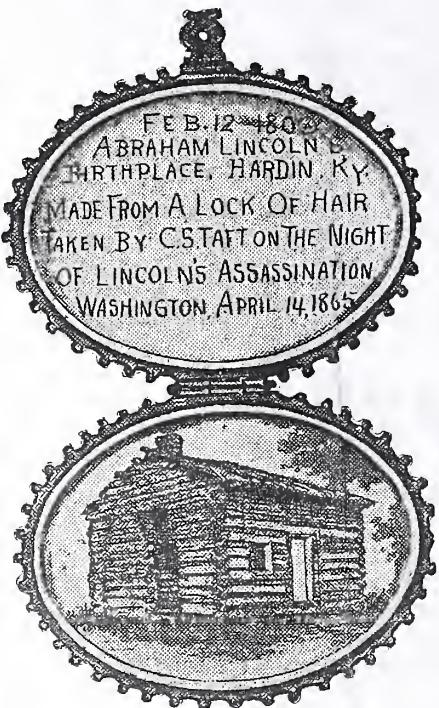
# Curios and Relics

## Desk Supplies

Pen Made from Springfield  
Home Brick

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



A HALLOWED LINCOLN RELIC

This locket contains a faithful picture of the humble birthplace and early home of Abraham Lincoln, wrought with wonderful skill from hair clipped from his head immediately after his assassination.

## Priceless Historic Souvenirs of Washington and Lincoln

*Recently Discovered in a Private Collection and Brought to Public Attention Exclusively by COMFORT*

*Feb 1908*  
**COMFORT**



WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN LIBERTY PEN

This wonderful historic pen presented to Lincoln on his first inauguration, made from a surveyor's chest presented to Washington on his first inauguration, which in turn was made from the desk of the captain of the Mayflower, spans the entire history of American liberty.

## Authentic History of the Famous Pen

Copyright, 1908, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

**I**SAAC B. REED of the famous old firm of Reed and Johnson, Horse and Carriage Auctioneers, located a generation ago on Nassau Street, opposite the old New York Post Office, is the proud possessor of some rare souvenirs, which are closely entwined with our national history, from Colonial times to the days of the Civil War.

Through a strange fatality—or remarkable coincidence as you may prefer to call it—Mr. Reed is so inseparably connected with the story of these souvenirs that we are compelled to accept him as a part of the collection.

His ancestors came over with Miles Standish and he is a lineal descendant of Uzal Knapp, the last survivor of Washington's old body-guard, who, as the inscription on his monument at Newburg tells us departed this life in 1856, at the ripe old age of 103 years.

Mr. Reed is a relative of the late Hon. Thomas B. Reed, ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives, but the story with its rare relics portrays rather the great men of the past generations, and brings out those reflected side-lights and delicate touches of shade which illustrate in a charming way the characteristic traits of our great men.

Mr. Reed was an intimate friend of General John A. Dix, and at the outbreak of the war secured through Gen. Dix an introduction to Salmon P. Chase, with whom he negotiated the printing of the United States Bonds, by the National Bank Note Company of New York.

During the progress negotiations Mr. Chase expressed to Mr. Reed his belief that it would be difficult to market a National Loan, as he feared that it would be an unpopular one, and asked him plainly what he would do in the case if he were Secretary of the Treasury.

"I would merely give a little more interest," replied Mr. Reed. "You just give them seven and three tenths interest instead of seven and you will see the public scramble for them!"

The idea of giving seven-thirty per cent. interest, so that accrued interest might be computed daily—seven-thirty being just twice three hundred and sixty-five, struck Secretary Chase as being good and was therefore adopted and proved to be a great success. Some years after, during the last of the business relations which Mr. Reed had with the Government regarding the printing of bonds, Secretary Chase took him to President Lincoln and said:

"Mr. President, I wish to introduce to you 'The Father of the 7.30 Bonds,'" and he told Mr. Lincoln how the idea had been suggested by Mr. Reed.

Mr. Reed is a man well advanced in years but with a phenomenally retentive memory so that he recalls with wonderful minutiæ all the details of the interview and the favorable impression made upon him by Lincoln's great personality and Chase's profound knowledge of finance. Upon Reed expressing a desire to visit the different Government Departments, President Lincoln wrote on a slip of paper: "Please extend to the bearer every courtesy in visiting the Government Departments, Lincoln." Saying, as he handed it: "Mr. Reed if there is anything more I can do for you, now is the time to ask for it."

"You have been very kind, Mr. President," replied Mr. Reed, "and there is no favor I can think of unless I might be so bold as to ask you to present me with the pen you signed that paper with."

Mr. Lincoln did not accept the suggestion kindly, nor did he dismiss it with a tactful pleasantry according to his characteristic way. He assumed a serious and hesitating air and said:

"You cannot realize the nature of your request. That pen is a souvenir with quite a history, and was presented to me in such a way that I should not part with it. In his early days George Washington was a civil engineer and surveyor, and when he was elected President of the United States a Patriotic Woman's Association of Virginia presented him with a quaintly carved chest such as held surveyor's instruments. It was duly set forth and duly authenticated that the chest was made from the lid of the Captain of the Mayflower's desk. It was afterward remodeled and made into two wonderful pens which found their way back to that same patriotic association of Virginia, and strange as it may appear were presented to me on my inaugural, accompanied by an elaborately engrossed preamble and resolutions setting forth the historical value of the pens."

Mr. Reed says: "I was so overcome by the President's earnest manner, that I felt as if I had made an outrageous request and was so profuse in my apologies that Mr. Lincoln in turn became still more embarrassed and must have imagined that I was offended by his refusal, for he suddenly turned exclaiming: 'See here! You are an exceedingly nice young man and as The Father of the 7.30 Bonds you deserve one of those pens. Those patriotic ladies gave me one pen for black ink and one for red. You take the pen I wrote that paper with and I will keep the other, and if you will call again I will have copies made for you of all connected with its history."

"I was embarrassed and pained by the turn of affairs and would gladly have withdrawn my request, but the great man was as happy as a boy over the solution of the difficulty, and pressed it in a way which permitted of no refusal."

## Sad Story of the Locket

Mr. Reed never had an opportunity of receiving the promised copies of the papers, although Secretary Hay said the same were made and he has vouchsafed for the correctness of the story in all its details. But what has become of the other pen and where are the engrossed testimonials? The pass to the Government Departments in Lincoln's well-known handwriting shows the date April 11, 1865, and just three days after, while waiting for these copies, by a strange fatality Mr. Reed went to Ford's Theater with Dr. Sabin Taft and was not ten feet away from the President when he was assassinated. Dr. Taft was passed over the heads of the people to the President's box and Mr. Reed and Col. Shadrack (the proprietor of Willard's Hotel) assisted in carrying the dying President to another room. It was there that at the solicitation of Mrs. Lincoln, a few locks of hair were cut from Lincoln's head, some of which was presented by Dr. Taft to Mr. Reed, which was afterwards made into a famous picture of the Hardin Log Cabin by a talented hair artist of New York, and put into a locket as shown in our illustration. The story of the cutting and presenting of this hair is fully set forth in the War Records, by orders of Secretary of War Stanton.

It may seem like a wide digression from the original history of the pen but to complete the story it becomes necessary to quote from some memoirs of Gen. U. S. Grant, which shall be given more fully at another time. President Grant purchased his famous horse "Butcher Boy" through Mr. Reed, who afterwards sold him at auction and when he turned the money over to the General he asked him to sign the receipt with the famous pen, which he did on June 9, 1884. So the pen has been used by Washington, Lincoln and Grant. It may also be said that it has been used and admired by many of the crowned heads and noted people of the Old World.

Mr. Reed was a man of large means and carried his souvenirs with him on a seven years' tour of the world during which he kept a strict diary of his "treasures" as he always called them.

It is shown that Queen Victoria signed her name with the pen; on May 27, 1873, Signor Crispi penned a sentiment, and we note that on July 9, 1873, Pope Pius IX invoked a blessing upon these souvenirs of three great and good men.

Regarding the value and final disposition of these rare relics it may be said that as Mr. Reed has no children, he repeatedly refused to part with them at any price but thought of donating them to some public institution. Commodore Kane of the N. Y. Yacht Club offered one thousand dollars for the pen to present it to the Union League Club.

Barronne de Struve, wife of the Russian Ambassador at Washington, bought a pair of horses from Mr. Reed for one thousand and twenty dollars, and offered to double the amount if he would

part with the pen. When in London in 1870 Mr. Reed was waited upon by William Churchill of the British Museum who informed him that the directors had authorized him to offer three hundred pounds for the pen.

"Why, I have already refused a larger sum in my own country," replied Mr. Reed; whereupon Mr. Churchill said: "I was only authorized to offer three hundred pounds, but on my own responsibility I will make it three hundred and fifty pounds, and submit it for your consideration."

This wonderful pen is more closely associated with the struggle for liberty in America than was the famous old liberty bell of Independence Hall, whose solemn tones first proclaimed to the world the birth of a new nation. The pen in its former shape was present with the Pilgrim Fathers in 1620 when, with Plymouth rock as the corner stone, they laid the imperishable foundations of American liberty. A century and a quarter later it saw Washington draw the sword in the successful defense of liberty and independence and was with him when he established the Union under the Constitution. It was with Lincoln when he took his solemn oath to defend the Constitution and preserve the Union, and, as he said, Heaven recorded it. It remained with him until peace dawned on a reunited country.



## 'LINCOLN PEN' IS SOLD DESPITE PROTESTS

Buyer Pays \$2,300 at Auction—  
Woman Insists Her Pen Signed  
Proclamation.

A pen with which it is said President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation brought \$2,300 yesterday afternoon at auction at the Anderson Galleries. Affidavits accompanying the gold pen, which has a detachable wooden handle, say that it was given by President Lincoln to Louis Burgdorf, White House messenger, who held the proclamation while Lincoln signed it. It was sold yesterday by order of W. B. Tucker, Burgdorf's grandson. The buyer was Gabriel Wells.

Several days ago Mrs. Stuart Pritchard of Battle Creek, Mich., protested against the sale of this pen, asserting that one she possessed was used by Lincoln to sign the document. She said that the pen had been given to her grandfather by Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. A third pen catalogued as that used by Lincoln in signing the proclamation was auctioned in Philadelphia in 1924 for \$1,000, and still another, also called genuine, is said to exist in the West.

Another protest from Mrs. Pritchard was received yesterday at the galleries, but the pen was sold as scheduled. After the auction William Smith Jr., vice president of the galleries, remarked that "the sale of this pen does not affect the status of any other pens whose owners consider them genuine, provided they have affidavits as substantial and conclusive as those accompanying the pen sold today."

Americana from the library of the late Edward Wheelock of Rochester, N. Y., also was sold at the same galleries yesterday afternoon for a total of \$17,717.

An autograph presentation copy of William H. Michael's work on the Declaration of Independence went to Thomas W. Best for \$1,000. A copy of John Norton's "The Redeemed Captive," a rare narrative of the French and Indian War, went to C. F. Heartman for \$985.

## The New York Times

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

"All the News That's Fit to Print."

Published Every Day in the Year by  
THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY.  
ADOLPH S. OCHS, President and Publisher.  
B. C. Franck, Secretary.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1929.

## PEN USED BY LINCOLN TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION

*N. Y. Times*  
With It the President Is Said to  
Have Signed the Emancipation  
Proclamation.

*Feb. 28 1929*

A pen authoritatively documented as the one with which Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation will be sold Wednesday afternoon at the Anderson Galleries. The pen was formerly the property of Louis Burgdorf, White House messenger during the Lincoln Administration, and is now being sold by order of his grandson. At the same auction there will be sold Americana from the library of the late Edward Wheelock of Rochester, N. Y., and autographs from other collections.

Louis Burgdorf, as White House messenger, is said to have held the proclamation while President Lincoln signed it. According to the supporting documents, both the pen and the table on which the proclamation was signed were given to Burgdorf by the President. In an affidavit accompanying the pen Burgdorf said in part:

"I was present in the Executive Mansion, in the President's office, when President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, dated January first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three; that I held the document on his table when he signed it; that he gave me the pen then with which he signed it and about a week afterward he gave me the table on which he signed it, I furnishing one to take the place of it and Dr. Blake consenting to the exchange." This affidavit was witnessed by his wife, daughter, son-in-law and Daniel N. Morgan. Mr. Burgdorf was in the Treasury Department from 1866 until his death in 1895, and in 1894 nine officers of the Treasury Department signed an affidavit as to their confidence in Mr. Burgdorf's statement. A photostat copy of this affidavit is included.

The original sworn affidavit by Myra A. Tucker, daughter of Mr. Burgdorf, accompanies the pen. She gives the history of the pen from the time of her father's death to the present, with other details:

"My father has told me that after President Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation he gave my father, Louis Burgdorf, the pen, and that the original ink that was used had dried on the pen. To my knowledge the pen has never been used since that time and the ink that is now on the pen is the same as used by President Lincoln when he signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This pen is a gold one with the following engraving on it '5 John Folley New York 1862.' The handle is of black wood and can be removed from the balance of the pen. \* \* \* I further state that this Emancipation Proclamation Pen has been in the possession of myself or members of my own family ever since the afternoon of Jan. 1, 1863."

*lincoln's Emancipation Pen Disputed;  
Woman in West Protests Sale of One Here*

Who owns the pen with which Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation?

This question came to the fore yesterday when Mrs. Stuart Pritchard of 35 Elizabeth Street, Battle Creek, Mich., asserted in a letter to THE NEW YORK TIMES that she owned the pen and protested against the auction at the Anderson Galleries here tomorrow afternoon of another pen documented as the one which Lincoln used. On Nov. 18, 1924, however, a third pen duly documented as the one used by Lincoln, was sold at auction in Philadelphia for \$1,000. Still a fourth pen, also called genuine, is said to exist in the West.

Mrs. Pritchard wrote that her pen was given to her grandmother by Mrs. Lincoln. The pen auctioned in Philadelphia was said to have been given by Lincoln to Charles A. Sumner and by Sumner to James Wormley, a negro, who owned the Wormley Hotel in Washington.

The pen to be auctioned tomorrow is upheld by two affidavits. One of these, the original of which is in the Connecticut State Library, is by Louis Burgdorf, White House messenger under Lincoln. In it Burgdorf said: "I held the document on his table when he signed it; that he gave me the pen then with which he signed it and about a week afterward

he gave me the table on which it was signed, I furnishing one to take the place of it."

The second affidavit is by Burgdorf's daughter, Myra A. Tucker, whose grandson, W. B. Tucker, is now offering the pen for sale. She said: "The ink that is now on the pen is the same as used by President Lincoln when he signed the Emancipation Proclamation."

Mrs. Pritchard writes that the pen now in her possession "was presented to my grandmother, Mrs. Myra Bradwell of Chicago, founder and editor of The Chicago Legal News and the first woman in the United States to apply for admission to the bar." She continues:

"It was given to me by my mother, Bessie Bradwell Helmer. It was given to her by her father, Judge James B. Bradwell of Chicago, judge of the Cook County and Probate Court in that city from 1861 until 1869. He acted in the capacity of legal adviser on many occasions to Mrs. Abraham Lincoln and was not only an attorney for the President's wife but a very close friend, as was also his wife, Myra Bradwell. My grandparents lived very near Mrs. Lincoln on West Washington Boulevard in Chicago. The latter gave the pen and other relics to my grandmother."

An old lady in Battle Creek is confident that she has the original Emancipation pen, given to her grandmother by Mrs. LINCOLN. So there are at least four "originals." Doubtless, research will discover others. One is a little reminded of the wealth of relics of the Middle Ages. There is an anecdote, historical or not, to the effect that SUMNER once asked Mr. LINCOLN for the pen with which he had signed a certain document. The President is said to have taken from the table a big handful of steel pens:

It was one of these. Which will you take? You are welcome to all.

This remark has been applied, if it was not invented, to show that he didn't himself know with what pen he signed the Emancipation Proclamation. That is a gracious theory. It may be said to justify all claimants sufficiently fortified in the matter of documents and descents.

## EMANCIPATION PENS.

In the mid-afternoon of Jan. 1, 1863, Secretary SEWARD and his son FREDERICK found Mr. LINCOLN alone in the Executive Chamber of the White House, the "broad sheet" of the Emancipation Proclamation "spread out before him on the Cabinet table." Mr. LINCOLN dipped his pen in the ink. What pen? What kind of pen? How many pens? He would hardly seem to need more than one to write his name. He had been shaking hands in the East Room since 11 o'clock—"9," he thought it, so long the ceremony had seemed. His arm was "stiff and numb," but he was determined that his signature should be firm. Nobody should be able to look at it, and, seeing that his hand had trembled, say: "He had some compunctions."

The gold pen with which he "slowly and carefully wrote his name" was sold in this city Wednesday for \$2,300. It was sold by the grandson of a former messenger who "held the Proclamation while Mr. LINCOLN signed it." This pen bears the name of a once famous maker, JOHN FOLEY. An official of the vending company says considerably that this sale leaves unimpaired the status of other Emancipation pens believed authentic by their proprietors and supported by as goodly an array of affidavits. For some years the Massachusetts Historical Society has had in its Lincoln collection "a homely steel pen with a wooden handle." The donor was a son of the late GEORGE LIVERMORE, a Boston antiquarian and collector.

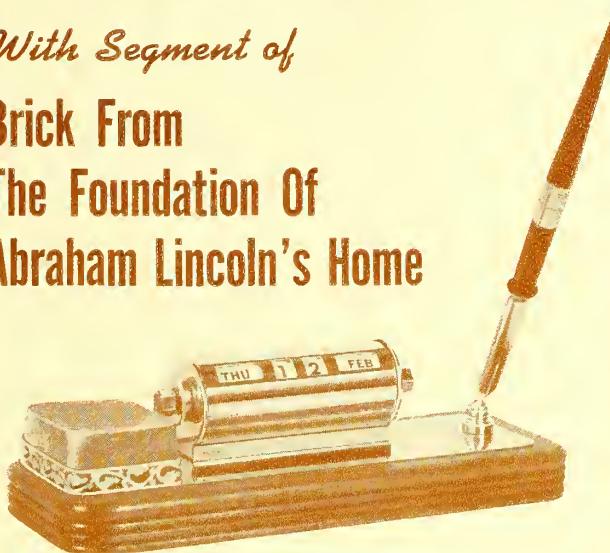
Among his books was an essay with a long title reciting the opinions of the fathers on "Negroes as Slaves, as Citizens and as Souls." He was picking up material about the war. He asked Senator SUMNER to get him the Emancipation pen. SUMNER asked before the signing. Mr. LINCOLN had read LIVERMORE's book and was glad to comply. CHARLES was never backward about asking for what he wanted. According to the Boston history or legend, he came first and was served first. In Philadelphia, in 1924, another Emancipation pen, said to have been given by SUMNER to JAMES WORMLEY, the negro proprietor of the Wormley House in Washington, was sold for \$1,000. This was of gold. The librarian of the Massachusetts Historical Society doesn't believe that Mr. LINCOLN used pens of that material in early '63.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1929.

*A Distinctive Collector's Item*  
**PRESTIGE DESK SET**

*With Segment of  
Brick From  
The Foundation Of  
Abraham Lincoln's Home*



LINCOLN BRICK DESK SET

*A Proud Possession for a Limited Few . . .*

A limited number of bricks were carefully removed from the foundation of *Abraham Lincoln's* original home in Springfield during a remodeling project authorized by the State of Illinois in 1954. They were acquired by a noted collector of Lincolniana

Craftsmen selected very fine segments of these Lincoln home bricks and blended them into unique desk sets. Each set is a deluxe combination of a ball point pen and perpetual calendar both mounted on a black walnut base with brass trim. A preservative has been added to the brick segments to assure permanence. *This is a choice*

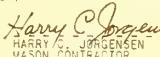
*item for persons of taste. The supply is limited.*

 HARRY C. JORGENSEN, MASON CONTRACTOR  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
TELEPHONE 8-7241

FEB. 12, 1958

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THE SEGMENT OF HAND MOULDED BRICK MOUNTED ON THE BASE IS A PART OF THE ORIGINAL BRICK FOUNDATION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S HOME AT 8TH & JACKSON STS. SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS. IT WAS SALVAGED DURING A REPAIR CONTRACT COMPLETED IN JULY 1954.

  
HARRY C. JORGENSEN  
MASON CONTRACTOR

STATE OF ILLINOIS } ss  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON }

I, MICHAEL J. BURNS, A NOTARY PUBLIC DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT HARRY C. JORGENSEN HAS SWEORN TO THE VERACITY OF THE STATEMENT APPEARING ABOVE HIS SIGNATURE.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Jan 7, 1960

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

Each set contains a microfilm reproduction of an affidavit by the mason contractor who salvaged the bricks and each is individually packaged.

For a select few, on your gift list who desire something rich in American tradition, the Lincoln Brick Desk Set is the last word. Price \$25.00.

Send check or money order.  
No C.O.D.

**MAX M. RUBIN**  
509 South Sixth, Springfield, Illinois



Land of Lincoln

HISTORICAL SOUVENIRS

● GIFTS ● NOVELTIES ● PREMIUM GOODS

MAX M. RUBIN  
509 SOUTH SIXTH  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

April 22, 1959

Address reply to: Silvio Galassi  
1115 North Third Street  
Springfield, Illinois

Mr. John White  
Advertising Manager  
Lincoln National Life Insurance Company  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. White

I am writing you at the suggestion of Dr. R. Gerald Mc Murtry with whom I have recently had a conversation concerning a paperweight and desk set with historic Lincoln association.

The paperweight includes an aluminum base with a segment of brick from the original and only home Abraham Lincoln owned. The desk set includes a very fine pen, a perpetual calendar and a mounted segment of brick from the Lincoln home.

Both the paperweight and the desk set carry authentications in the form of an affidavit from the mason contractor.

We are certain that the two items will be of great interest to Lincoln collectors and will make an excellent gift item.

It is my opinion that to properly present these items for your consideration I should visit you in Fort Wayne. Knowing you have a busy schedule, may I ask that you set a time with an alternate time and I shall endeavor to reconcile the dates that we may meet.

I feel certain Doctor Mc Murtry would appreciate seeing these items and possibly we could include him in our audience with you.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Very truly yours

*Silvio Galassi*

Silvio Galassi  
Sales Manager

jed

# Authentic Collector's Item

## Quantities Limited

A keepsake from one of the world's most visited shrines, the home of Abraham Lincoln, Springfield, Ill.



Bricks salvaged during a remodeling project at the home of Abraham Lincoln, Springfield, Illinois, were neatly cut to decorate the Desk Set shown above. The brick is authentic and each Desk Set comes with a notarized statement from the Mason Contractor that removed them.

Desk Sets are gift boxed and are composed of 3" x 6" imported Italian Marble, 3/4" thick. Pen is Sheaffer Deskette with swivel base, fully guaranteed. Etched Plate stating "Original Brick from the Home of Abraham Lincoln, Springfield, Illinois" is in two-toned chrome or gold, satin and bright, with an illustration of the home. Four cork tabs on bottom protects your furniture from scratches. Name Plate below pen is not included but can be obtained by using the order form shipped with the Desk Set.

**HARRY C. JORGENSEN, MASON CONTRACTOR**  
1931 LEXUS AVENUE SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS TELEPHONE 5-1781  
BELL SYSTEM TELEPHONE COMPANY

FEB. 12, 1958

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:  
THE SEGMENT OF HAND MOULDED BRICK MOUNTED  
ON THIS BASE IS A PART OF THE ORIGINAL  
BRICK FOUNDATION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S HOME  
AT 5TH & JACKSON STS. SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.  
IT WAS SALVAGED DURING A REPAIR CONTRACT COM-  
PLETED IN JULY 1954.

*Harry C. Jorgensen*  
HARRY C. JORGENSEN  
MASON CONTRACTOR

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON

I, MICHAEL J. BURNS, A NOTARY PUBLIC DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT HARRY C. JORGENSEN HAS SWEORN TO THE VERACITY OF THE STATEMENT APPEARING ABOVE HIS SIGNATURE.

*M. J. Burns*  
NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES *Jan. 7, 1960*

